Ø 005 **Ø 006**

UCD-B A03 (600204464-9 US)

REMARKS

The above amendment is made to put the application in order for appeal. In an office action dated July 14, 2003, the Examiner indicated that there were three option for regularizing the priority claim. Applicant chooses option (A) as suggested by the Examiner and provides a new priority statement.

Applicant notes that the priority claim is exactly that on the filing receipt. Further applicant has checked the filing dates with the US Patent and Trademark Office. The attached palm print, issued by the office, shows that the dates on the filing receipt are consistent with the office's records.

The present application is a continuation of parent U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/987,591, which in turn is a continuation of grandparent U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/583,009. The specification of each of said applications is the same, with the exception that the present application and the parent application contain non-substantive paragraphs referring to their respective lineage.

It appears that the request for correction of filing receipt was neither entered nor acted on. In any event, it requested an incorrect change, since the filing dates listed on the filing receipt are the same as the patent office records. The notation on the filing receipt that the date of the grandparent application is inconsistent with PTO records appears to be a mistake. We understand that mistakes such as this happen from time to time.

Applicant has already filed a notice of appeal in this application. An appeal brief will be filed in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

December 30, 2003 Reed Smith LLP 599 Lexington Avenue, 29th Floor

New York, New York 10022-7650

Tel: (212) 521-5400

Paul Fenster Reg. No. 33,877